



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1921

INAUGURAL ADDRESS¹

<i>The Inaugural Address of the President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology:</i>	
DR. ERNEST FOX NICHOLS.....	523
<i>Science and Community Trusts:</i> DR. ROBERT M. YERKES	527
<i>Scientific Events:</i> —	
<i>The Medical School of Columbia University and the Presbyterian Hospital; Gifts by the Carnegie Corporation to Carnegie Institutes at Pittsburgh; Meetings of British and American Chemists; Organization of Members of the American Association at the Pennsylvania State College.....</i>	529
<i>Scientific Notes and News.....</i>	531
<i>University and Educational News.....</i>	534
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:</i> —	
<i>Concerning Recent Auroras: DR. ELIHU THOMSON. The Landslide near Mont Blanc: W. M. D. Extra-mundane Life: PROFESSOR ELLEN HAYES</i>	534
<i>Scientific Books:</i> —	
<i>The Health of the Industrial Worker: PROFESSOR REYNOLD A. SPAETH.....</i>	536
<i>Special Articles:</i> —	
<i>Soil Acidity the Resultant of Chemical Phenomena: DR. H. A. NOYES.....</i>	539
<i>The American Mathematical Society: PROFESSOR R. G. D. RICHARDSON.....</i>	540

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to The Editor of Science, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE institute, like every other educational enterprise, has its individual problems and needs, but these I do not yet sufficiently understand to make a public discussion of them profitable to anybody. What I shall say, therefore, bears on technical education in general without reference to the separate needs of this or any other school.

I

Many of you who have lately become familiar with Mr. H. G. Wells's interpretation of history will realize new significance in the fact that children are born into a world that is already old. For many thousand years before our generation men were experimenting with Nature, with social, economic, political, and religious ideas and practices. Our civilization to-day is the forward-borne product of this slowly and painfully acquired experience of the race.

The whole educational process, broadly seen, is the problem of putting our young people in touch with the more outstanding results of this age-old accumulation and of giving them exercise in the most direct thought processes by which this experience and knowledge have been acquired; processes by which experience and knowledge may be enlarged and extended.

The education of boy or girl, therefore, consists in bringing them up to the present day, so that they can enter independent life as useful thinkers and doers in the world as it is. Dreams of what the world ought to be are not only stimulating but indispensable to human progress, but each generation must begin building on the world as it finds it.

Expressed otherwise, our educational effort

¹ Given by Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols on the occasion of his installation as president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.